

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I currently do not use broadband because until very recently only our local phone and cable company provided such services and both would not provide the features or functions I desired.

Access to large numbers of news groups, fixed IP addressing, better pricing, home network support and MUCH more customized expertise in supporting internet technology are all reasons why I chose to remain on dialup vs. purchasing an unsatisfactory DSL connection from our local phone company.

Our local cable company offers broadband access, but has evidently over sold its capacity in our area and will not provide a cable modem to me, despite the fact that I have digital cable!

I believe it is in both the customers best interest and in the American tradition of free market capitalism to allow open access to vendors in providing broad band access.

To do anything else would be to take step back into the days when AT&T was the only phone company and would encourage monopolistic practices. Add in that in my experience cable and phone companies provide dismal customer service because they have been, until lately, monopolies.

The choice is clear, freedom over monopoly. Quantity and quality over market strangle holds. Please do not close out the option for small and/or regional ISPs to provide broadband service to the public.

Sincerely,

Jeff Conrad
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Louisville, KY 40223